

May 4, 2001

**SCHOOL YEAR 2000-01 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION  
MEMORANDUM NO. 2**

**TO:** STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAM DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** OFFICE OF FIELD SERVICES

***OF NOTE*** 

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While Congress is making progress on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the legislation has not been finalized yet and the timeline for passage is not certain. For planning purposes, districts should assume that the current program requirements will continue for the 2001-02 school year. Current information on the status of reauthorization can be found on the Library of Congress legislative website at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>. The House of Representatives reauthorization bill is **H.R.1** (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001), and the Senate bill is **S.1** (Better Education for Students and Teachers Act).

***CALENDAR*** 

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May 3-31    2001-02 Consolidated Application and Section 31a Workshops  
(see schedule at [www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/meetings.htm](http://www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/meetings.htm))

July 16     2000-01 Section 31a Program Report due  
(form available at:  
[www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/progreptfrms/index.htm](http://www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/progreptfrms/index.htm))

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## **Consolidated Application Procedures for 2001-02**

Because Congress has not passed new legislation yet for the federal programs in the Consolidated Application, school districts and public school academies will apply for 2001-02 funds on a Consolidated Application Update very similar to the update used in 2000-01. The only significant differences are the removal of the Section 57.3 Gifted and Talented Program, which will use a separate application, and a change in the format of budget pages to fit new Michigan Department of Education specifications.

The 2001-02 Consolidated Application Update form is available at [www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/grants.htm](http://www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/grants.htm). Work copies of the form will also be distributed at the 2001-02 Consolidated Application and Section 31a Workshops being held in various locations from May 3 to May 31. The workshop schedule was sent to superintendents in a memorandum April 13, 2001, and is posted at [www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/meetings.htm](http://www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/meetings.htm).

The information needed to determine 2001-02 allocation amounts has not been provided by the U.S. Department of Education yet. However, the use of 1997 census poverty estimates will not be favorable to many Michigan school districts. The U.S. Department of Education has notified us that 2001-02 Title I allocations for some districts will be reduced to approximately 98 percent of the 2000-01 allocation amount. The Office of Field Services will notify school districts and public school academies as soon as 2001-02 allocation amounts for Title I and other federal programs are available.

## **Public Reporting Requirements for Title I and Class Size Reduction Programs**

School districts and public school academies that are beginning to prepare their 2000-01 annual educational reports are advised to take into consideration the public reporting requirements for the Title I and Class Size Reduction programs. While it is allowable to use other methods to meet these requirements, the annual educational report provides a convenient and highly appropriate reporting method.

The Title I legislation requires school districts and public school academies to conduct an annual review of each Title I school's progress on state assessment tests, and to publicize and disseminate the results of the review to teachers, other staff, parents, students, and the community. MEAP results must be disaggregated and reported for the following groups if there are at least ten students tested in each group to be compared:

- gender
- racial and ethnic group
- English proficiency status
- migrant status
- students with disabilities compared to nondisabled students
- economically disadvantaged students compared to students who are not economically disadvantaged

This has been an important Title I requirement since 1995 and is designed to ensure that schools are accountable for all students, especially disadvantaged students. The requirement does not appear to be widely understood, however, and has not been implemented yet in a large number of districts and academies. This requirement will almost certainly be continued when Title I is reauthorized.

The federal Class Size Reduction Program, new in 1999-2000, also has a public reporting requirement that can be met through the annual educational report. Districts and academies that receive Class Size Reduction funds must publicly report to parents on their progress in reducing class size and increasing the percentage of fully qualified teachers (if not all teachers are fully qualified), as well as the impact of reducing class size on student achievement. Districts and academies with small allocations that use all of the funds for professional development should report on those professional development activities and their impact on teacher qualifications.

If you have questions about these public reporting requirements or how they might be incorporated in your annual educational report, your regional Field Services consultant can assist you.

### **Rural Education Achievement Program Established**

Congress has established a new Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) as part of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2001. This program provides eligible rural school districts and public school academies with the opportunity to combine their Title II, Part B (Eisenhower Professional Development), Title IV (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities), Title VI (Innovative Education Program Strategies), and Class Size Reduction funds for activities authorized under one or more of the following programs:

- Title I, Part A      Improving Basic Programs
- Title II, Part B     Eisenhower Professional Development
- Title III            Technology Literacy Challenge Fund
- Title IV             Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities

School districts and public school academies eligible to combine funds under REAP are those that:

- 1) have an average daily attendance of less than 600 pupils for the period beginning on the first day of classes in the fall of 2000 and ending December 1, 2000; and
- 2) have all of their schools situated in a locale with less than 2,500 people and coded rural by the Census Bureau. These schools are designated with a School Locale Code of 7 or 8 under the U. S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) locator system.

School Locale Codes for all schools can be found by accessing the NCES website at [www.nces.ed.gov](http://www.nces.ed.gov).

Eligible districts and academies that wish to participate in REAP in 2001-02 must notify the Michigan Department of Education when they submit their 2001-02 Consolidated Application Updates. A notification form will be available at [www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/grants.htm](http://www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/grants.htm) with the 2001-02 Consolidated Application Update form. After an initial three-year period of participation, districts and academies must show improvement in their MEAP results to continue their participation.

If you have questions about the Rural Education Achievement Program, or how to complete the Consolidated Application Update if you are eligible and wish to participate, please call your regional Field Services consultant.

### **Information on Providing Services to English Language Learners**

The Office of Field Services (OFS) has received an increasing number of inquiries about providing services to students who speak little or no English. These students are designated as English Language Learners (ELL) or as students who are of Limited English Proficiency (LEP). The Office of Field Services oversees the allocation and use of various state and federal funds that can be used to supplement the state aid foundation grant to provide necessary services to ELL students.

Guidance on selecting and implementing appropriate programs can be found on the Michigan Department of Education website at: [www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/index.htm](http://www.state.mi.us/mde/off/fs/index.htm). The two documents that can be found there are Programs for English Language Learners, a publication from the Office for Civil Rights, and the Michigan Department of Education State Manual to assist school districts in their work with students of limited English proficiency.

Since inquiries come from a variety of community members, this information should be dispersed to school and community members to help them learn about the opportunities available to ELL students and learn about each school district's responsibility to provide equal access to education for all students. If additional information is needed, please feel free to contact your OFS regional consultant or Mazin Heiderson, OFS Central Support consultant at 517-373-6066.